



School Administrative Unit #41

Hollis, Brookline & Hollis-Brookline Cooperative School Districts
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March 22, 2021

Dear Members of the Planning Board,

On Thursday, March 18, Town Administrator Tad Putney reached out to me seeking clarification on two items. The first item was regarding when I anticipate the enrollment increase happening? I believe the NESDEC projections indicate that the increase in student enrollment will occur over the next 18 months. As with all of our enrollment predictions much of what is projected is based on the economy and regional employers continuing to maintain or expand their work force. The second question was related to our historical enrollments being greater than the recent projections and why we cannot accommodate the projected increase? The two significant items that have reduced available classroom space are the Board's passing of policy IIB which dictates class sizes by grade. Prior to this policy we had class sections that in some cases approached the State maximum of thirty students per class. The second area that has reduced available classroom space has been the District's decision to create in-district special education programming which has reduced our need to place students out of district. These in-district programs allow us to provide an outstanding education to specific students while also avoiding substantial tuition and transportation costs associated with an out of district placement.

I hope you find this information helpful as you deliberate on the potential workforce housing development proposed for route 13 in Brookline.

Respectfully,

Andrew F. Corey
Superintendent of Schools

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